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REMARKS

All claims have been canceled and replaced with new claims 77 to 110 in a sincere attempt to distinguish the invention of this case over the prior art. The title has been changed also to conform to the title appearing on the formal papers for this case rather than the title in the related PCT application.

New claims 77 to 88 are article claims and new claims 89 to 110 are method-of-making claims. New claims 77 specifies that the chemical conversion coating in the polymer battery module packaging sheet is formed by phosphate treatment using a mixture of a phenolic resin, trivalent chromium phosphate, and phosphoric acid. Support for this chemical conversion coating is found in the application at least at page 26, lines 32 to 35; page 30, lines 5 to 7; page 43, lines 7 to 10; page 53, lines 13 to 17; page 64, lines 19 to 22; page 89, lines 28 to 32; page 115, lines 6 to 9; and page 129, lines 30 to 33.

New article claim 78 specifies that the aluminum layer in the polymer battery module packaging sheet has a thickness in the range of 20 to 80 μm and an iron content of 0.3 to 9% by weight. The specification supports this description of the aluminum layer at least at page 13, lines 2 to 19; page 25,

lines 20 to 35; the paragraph bridging pages 40 and 41; page 52, lines 4 to 19; page 63, lines 10 to 25; page 77, lines 6 to 19; the paragraph bridging pages 100 and 101; the paragraph bridging pages 113 and 114; and page 128, lines 18 to 33.

The Examiner is informed also that new claim 81 is based upon original claim 10; new claim 82 is based upon original claim 12, new claim 83 is based upon original claim 15, new claims 84 and 85 are based upon original claim 14, new claims 86 and 87 are based upon original claim 34, new claim 88 is based upon original claim 37, new claim 89 is based upon original claim 61, new claim 90 is based upon original claim 63, new claim 91 is based upon original claim 65, new claim 92 is based upon original claim 67, new claim 93 is based upon original claim 69, new claim 94 is based upon original claim 73, new claims 95 and 96 are based upon original claim 62, new claims 98 and 99 are based upon original claim 70, new claim 100 is based upon original claim 43, new claim 103 is based upon original claim 71, and new claim 104 is based upon original claim 75.

The objections to claims 4, 48, 49, 59, and 60 are noted. Those claims have been canceled and the criticized terms do not appear in the new claims.

The detailed art rejections of the original claims including the Examiner's justifications for his positions are noted with appreciation. It is respectfully submitted that the references in combination do not teach or suggest the subjects matters of the new claims and the detailed recitations therein, for example, in the article claims of the particular makeup of the chemical conversion coating and the makeup of the aluminum layer or the specific details of the method claims. The Examiner is informed that (1) an article having the elements of new claim 77 provides increased adhesion, (2) articles having the elements of new claim 78 can prevent the occurrence of pin holes, and (3) the advantage of the process claims is that one is able to obtain an increase in adhesive forces between the aluminum layer and the adhesive resin layer. These advantages are not taught or suggested by the references cited.

The cited references do not teach or suggest the particular chemical conversion coating of claim 77 or the particular aluminum layer thickness or iron content values of claim 78 or any reason for doing so. Claims 77 to 88 patentably define over the cited art.

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The particular manufacturing methods of claims 89 to 110 likewise are not taught or suggested by the cited art. The Examiner is referred to the working and comparative examples in the specification.

The Examiner is thanked for acknowledging that certified copies of the priority documents have been received from the International Bureau and for listing references provided in an Information Disclosure Statement.

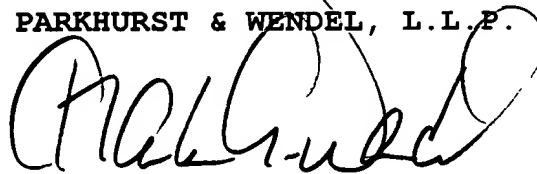
In view of the foregoing revisions and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that claims 77 to 110 are in condition for allowance and a USPTO paper to those ends is earnestly solicited.

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The Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned if additional changes are required in the case prior to allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

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November 6, 2003
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Attorney Docket No.: DAIN:646

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